Arkansas

REGIONAL RANKING ➔ SOUTH #9

GOVERNOR: Asa Hutchinson
DOT COMMISSIONER: Scott Bennett
BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN COORDINATOR: Kim Sanders
STATE ADVOCACY GROUP: Bike Walk Arkansas

OVERALL POINTS

31 of 100
2014: 27 of 100

FEEDBACK

• Conduct a bicycle economic benefit study to showcase the positive impacts of bicycling for tourism, health costs, economic development, job creation, and transportation return on investment. Arkansas has seen many people come to the state for mountain biking and the state should be aware of the benefits of fostering continued recreational and transportation opportunities for bicyclists.

• Arkansas has a high rate of bicyclist fatalities. Ensure that bicycle safety is a major emphasis in all transportation projects, programs and policies to address this issue.

• Adopt a statewide Complete Streets policy. The National Complete Streets Coalition has a model state policy and a variety of other resources to ensure adoption and implementation.

• Dedicate additional resources towards fully implementing the state's existing bicycle plan or adopt a new plan.

• The state could spend more federal funding on bicyclists and pedestrians. Adopt project prioritization criteria for federal funds that incentivize bicycle projects and accommodations.

• Adopt a vulnerable road user law that increases penalties for a motorist that injures or kills a bicyclist or pedestrian. Model language is available here: http://bikeleague.org/content/model-legislation.

• Dedicate state funding for bicycle projects and programs, especially those focused on safety and eliminating gaps and increasing access for bicycle networks.

• Conduct a share the road campaign creatively addressing the issues specific to your state.

The Bicycle Friendly States ranking is based on a comprehensive survey completed by state departments of transportation and state bicycling advocates. It asks comprehensive questions across 5 categories: Legislation and Enforcement, Policies and Programs, Infrastructure and Funding, Education and Encouragement, Evaluation and Planning. The results listed above provide only a snap shot of the full application. They are intended to offer some ideas for further growth in bicycle friendliness. For more information, visit www.bikeleague.org/states or contact Ken McLeod at (202)-822-1333 or ken@bikeleague.org.

REPORT CARD

RANKING # 36

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2014: 27 of 100

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